

Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 07040.0223

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
Gianfranco COLOMBO et al. )  
) Group Art Unit: **Not Yet Assigned**  
Application No.: **Not Yet Assigned** )  
) Examiner: **Not Yet Assigned**  
Filed: **May 4, 2005** )  
)  
National Stage of International Application No. )  
PCT/IT2002/000814 under 35 U.S.C. 371, for )  
TREAD PATTERN FOR WINTER TIRES )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and cited in the international search report. With exception of the U.S. patents, copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO/SB/08 and are in a non-English language:

1. Japanese Patent Publication No. 08 025917 - An English-language abstract of this document is enclosed.
2. French Patent Publication No. 2 800 015

3. European Patent Publication No. 0 669 216 A1
4. European Patent Publication No. 0 921 020 A2

In lieu of a statement of relevance or the translation of the non-English documents, enclosed is an English-language international search report from the European Patent Office in the PCT international application, from which this national phase U.S. application is derived, citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof.

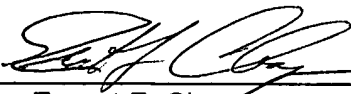
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: May 4, 2005

By:   
Ernest F. Chapman  
Reg. No. 25,961

Enclosures  
EFC/FPD/sci

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1 PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned 10/533927
				Filing Date	May 4, 2005
				First Named Inventor	Gianfranco COLOMBO et al.
				Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	07040.0223
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-5,702,545	12-30-1997	TOYOSHIMA et al.	

**Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		EP 0715 973 A2	06-12-1996	OCHI		
		EP 0 688 686 A2	12-27-1995	HIMURO		
		EP 0 669 216 A1	08-30-1995	DIENSTHUBER		NO
		FR 2 800 015	04-27-2001	TAKAYUKI et al.		NO
		JP 08-025917-	01-30-1996	OCHI		ABSTRACT
		EP 0 921 020 A2/A3	06-09-1999	DIENSTHUBER et al.		NO
		WO 02/068222 A1	09-06-2002	COLOMBO et al.		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		SHINOHARA, K., "Pneumatic Tire," Patent Abstracts of Japan, JP. No. 06-143935, (May 24, 1994).	
		OCHI, N., "Pneumatic Tire," Patent Abstracts of Japan, JP. No. 2002-264612, (September 18, 2002).	
		OCHI, N., "Pneumatic Tire For Winter," Patent Abstracts of Japan, JP. No. 07-132710, (May 23, 1995).	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.